

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00523 271352Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06
OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /097 W
-----271436Z 012100 /46

R 271240Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2539
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0523

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, US, QA
SUBJECT: QATARI OIL MINISTER'S VIEWS ON PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED
ENERGY POLICY

1. DURING APR 26 COURTESY CALL BY AMB AND VISITING COMIDEASTFOR
RADM WILLIAM CROWE ON QATARI MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PETROLEUM
SHAYKH ABDUL AZIZ BIN KHALIFA AL THANI, THERE WAS SPIRITED DIS-
CUSSION ON PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED ENERGY POLICY.

2. ABDUL AZIZ CHALLENGED CIA REPORT ON ENERGY SUPPLY PICTURE; HE
CLAIMED PROJECTION THAT THERE WOULD BE CRUNCH IN 1985 WAS NOT
SUPPORTED BY REAL FACTS OF SITUATION. HE ALSO HOMED IN ON PRES-
IDENT'S INTENTION TO RAISE GASOLINE TAXES TO ENFORCE CONSERVAT-
ION MEASURES. VJBDUL AZIZ DECLARED THAT NEITHER CONGRESS NOR
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AMERICAN PUBLIC WOULD TOLERATE SUCH AN INCREASE IN PRICE OF
GASOLINE. (ABUDL AZIZ ASKED FOR COPY OF CIA REPORT--WE UNDER-
STAND THAT IT HAS BEEN DECLASSIFIED AND WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT'S
PROVIDING ONE).

3. WE TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO OUTLINE RATIONALE OF PRESIDENT'S PRO-
POSALS, TO EMPHASIZE HIS DETERMINATION TO SEE THEM WRITTEN INTO

LAW, AND TO ASSERT THAT US PUBLIC, PROPERLY INFORMED ON GRAVITY OF SITUATION, WOULD GIVE ITS FULL SUPPORT TO PRESIDENT. WE ALSO STRESSED THAT CONSERVATION BASIS OF PRESIDENT'S PROPOSALS SHOULD APPEAL TO GOQ AND OTHER PRODUCERS, WHO HAVE BEEN SCREAMING AT US ABOUT OUR PROFLIGACY FOR AN NUMBER OF YEARS, SINCE WE NOW INTEND TO PUT THAT SITUATION RIGHT.

4. IN RESPONSE TO OUR QUERY, ABDUL AZIZ REPLIED THAT HE COULD FORESEE NO ADVERSE IMPACT ON QATARI INTERESTS SHOULD PRESIDENT'S PROPOSALS BE FULLY IMPLEMENTED.

5. COMMENT: PARA 4 ABOVE NOTWITHSTANDING, THERE WAS CLEAR TONE OF WORRY IN ABDUL AZIZ'S COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT'S PROPOSALS. SINCE ONE QUARTER OF QATAR'S CURRENT PRODUCTION IS BEING SOLD TO U.S., ABDUL AZIZ' INITIAL REACTIONS ARE OBVIOUSLY CONDITIONED BY HIS FEAR THAT REDUCED OIL CONSUMPTION IN US CANNOT BUT HELP HIT QATARIS IN THEIR POCKET.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Remarks:
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